अफ्रीका से काजू का आयात

1633. **डॉ० बापू कालदवाते** : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने अफ्रीका से काजू का आयात करने की अनुमति दे दी है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि कोंकण में काजू के बेहतर उत्पादन के बावजूद ऐसी अनुमति दी गई है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) काजू की कितनी मात्रा का आयात किए जाने की संभावना है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री सलमान खुर्शीद) : (क) से (घ): चालू निर्यात आयात नीति के अन्तर्गत अफ्रीका, फिजी, इराक और युगोस्लाविया संघीय गणराज्य (सरबिया और मान्टेग्रो) को छोड़कर सभी देशों से काजू की गिरी का मुक्त रूप से आयात करने की अनुमति है। चूंकि आयात पर कोई प्रतिबंध नहीं है इसलिए इस मद के आयात की संभावित मात्रा का अनुमान नहीं लगाया जा सकता है।

Trade Agreements with Sri Lanka

1634. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have negotiated with the Sri Lankan Government recently and finalised trade agreements;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the import duty concessions granted to Sri Lanka ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Indo-Sri Lanka Trade Agreement was signed in 1961 and is still in force. However, the Indo-Sri Lanka Sub-Commission of Trade, Finance and Investment met in September, 1992 to review bilateral trade and devise ways and means to further enhance bilateral, economic and commercial cooperation. It has inter-alia been decided to encourage joint ventures in the areas of drugs and pharmaceuticals, granite crucibles, automobile spare parts and oleo-resins.

Under the GSTP, India has granted preferences to Sri-Lanka ranging from 10% to 30% on 30 items. Under the Bangkok Agreement, preferences ranging from 5 percentage points to 75 percentage points has been granted in respect of 65 items.

Setting up of Free Port in India

1635. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Free Press Journal, Bombay dated 14th October, 1992 under the caption Stage set for India's Maiden Free Port;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government to the press report and observations made therein;

(c) the details regarding present status of the proposal and likely time for final approval of the same; and

(d) what are the salient features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Press Report refers to issues aready discussed in the Report of the Advisory Committee. Recommendations made in the Report and their likely implications are presently under consideration. At this stage, no time frame can be indicated within which a final decision also can be taken on the proposal.